

Attorney Docket No. 65961-0054

PATENT**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A bumper beam, comprising:

a first portion comprising a first material having a first end and a second end;

and

a second portion comprising a second material having a first end abutting said first end of said first portion and a second end abutting said second end of said first portion,
wherein said first material has different material properties than said second material.

2. (Original) A bumper beam according to Claim 1, wherein said first material has a generally higher strength than said second material.

3. (Original) A bumper beam according to Claim 1, wherein said first material has a different thickness than said second material.

4. (Original) A bumper beam according to Claim 1, wherein said first material comprises martensitic steel.

5. (Original) A bumper beam according to Claim 1, wherein said second material comprises dual-phase, multiphase, complex-phase or transformation induced plasticity steel.

6. (Currently Amended) A bumper beam according to Claim 1, wherein said first and second ends of said first portion and said first and second ends of said second portion are fixedly attached to each other.

7. (Original) A bumper beam according to Claim 1, wherein said first portion has a generally C-shaped cross-section having a back and two legs extending orthogonally therefrom.

8. (Currently Amended) A bumper beam according to Claim 7, wherein said second portion has a cross-section including includes two generally C-shaped sections, each C-

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shaped section having a back and two legs and a back, said back being positioned between said two legs.

9. (Currently Amended) A bumper beam according to claim 8, wherein said C-shaped sections are joined together by wherein said second portion further includes a connecting segment positioned between said two generally C-shaped sections.

10. (Currently Amended) A bumper beam according to Claim 8, wherein at least one of said two legs [[is]] of one of said two generally C-shaped sections extends generally orthogonal with respect to said back.

Claims 11-14 (Canceled)

15. (Original) A bumper beam according to Claim 9, wherein said connecting segment is fixedly attached to said back of said first portion.

16. (Currently Amended) A bumper beam, comprising:
a first portion fixedly attached to a second portion;
said first portion having a generally C-shaped cross-section and comprising a first material, said first portion including a back and two legs extending orthogonally therefrom; and
[[said]] a second portion having a cross-section with two generally C-shaped sections integrally joined together and further comprising a second material, said second portion includes two generally C-shaped sections, each C-shaped section having two legs and a back positioned between said two legs, wherein said second portion further includes a connecting segment positioned between said two generally C-shaped sections.

wherein said first portion is attached to said second portion, and
wherein said first material of said first portion has a different material property than
said second material of said second portion.

Claims 17-20 (Canceled)

Please add Claims 21-23 as follows:

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21. (New) A bumper beam according to Claim 16, wherein one leg of said first portion includes a first end and the other leg of said first portion includes a second end, and wherein said one of said legs of said second portion includes a first end abutting said first end of said first portion, and wherein another one of said legs of said second portion includes a second end abutting said second end of said first portion.

22. (New) A bumper beam, comprising:

a first portion having a generally C-shaped cross-section and comprising a first material, said first portion including a back and two legs extending orthogonally therefrom; and

a second portion comprising a second material, said second portion includes two generally C-shaped sections integrally joined to each other, each C-shaped section having two legs and a back positioned between said two legs, wherein one of said two legs of one of the two generally C-shaped sections is integral with one of said two legs of the other one of the two generally C-shaped sections to form one extended segment between each C-shaped section,

wherein said first portion is attached to said second portion, and

wherein said first material of said first portion has a different material property than said second material of said second portion.

23. (New) A bumper beam according to Claim 22, wherein one leg of said first portion includes a first end and the other leg of said first portion includes a second end, and wherein said one of said legs of said second portion includes a first end abutting said first end of said first portion, and wherein another one of said legs of said second portion includes a second end abutting said second end of said first portion.